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FM AMEMBASSY RIYADH
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6843
RHEBAAA/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
INFO RUEHHH/OPEC COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEKDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUCPDOG/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L RIYADH 002174

SIPDIS

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EB/ESC FOR SGALLOGLY, GGRIFFIN, AND MMCAMANUS
DEPT OF ENERGY PASS TO A/S KHARBERT, DAS AHEGBURG,
MWILLIAMSON, GPERSON, AND JHART

E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/31/2017

TAGS: [EPET](#) [ECON](#) [PREL](#) [SA](#)

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR INVITED TO OPEC SUMMIT-RELATED EVENTS

REF: A. SECSTATE 150113

[1](#)B. 10/22/07 GGRIFFIN-SROSS E-MAIL

[1](#)C. RIYADH 2056

[1](#)D. RIYADH 1519

Classified By: DCM Michael Gfoeller
for reasons 1.4 (b) (c) and (d).

(U) 1. This is an action request. NEA/ARP, EB/ESC, and
DOE/International Policy, please see paragraph four.

Background to the OPEC Summit and Related Events

[1](#)2. (SBU) The November 17-18 Summit in Riyadh is the third
OPEC Summit; the first was in 1975 in Algeria,
and the second in 2000 in Venezuela. An OPEC Summit is a
rare event, and this the first to be held
in Saudi Arabia. The Summit will be a key event for the SAG
to highlight its leadership role within OPEC.

[1](#)3. (U) On the margins of the Summit, the Ministry of
Petroleum (MinPet) has scheduled an Industry Exhibit
from November 14-16, and a Symposium from November 15-16.
MinPet has informed us that these two events will
have wider participation and not be tied specifically to OPEC
membership. We anticipate heads of state from
OPEC member nations will attend the OPEC Summit, and may
choose to participate in some of the related activities.
We expect U.S. firms to be represented at the industry
exhibit, and to be prominently featured in the symposium
presentations.

Action Request: Ambassador Invited to Participate

[1](#)4. (C) Subsequent to Mission's request for guidance on
attendance at the OPEC Summit-related events at the
working level, Ambassador Fraker received a personal phone
call from HRH Deputy Petroleum Minister Prince
Abdulaziz bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud to request his
attendance at the OPEC Summit-related events. In a
follow-on meeting, Prince Abdulaziz clarified he hoped
Ambassador Fraker would attend two dinner events,
one two days prior to opening of the Summit, and another
dinner for the Summit opening, to be attended
by senior members of the Riyadh diplomatic corps. Prince

Abdulaziz also expects oil ministers from OPEC member nations to attend the dinner events, but does not anticipate heads of state, such as Iranian President Ahmedinejad, Libyan President Khadafi, or Venezuelan President Chavez, to attend. Mission requests specific guidance on Ambassador Fraker's participation in these dinners and other OPEC Summit-related events, such as the industry exhibition (which will feature exhibits by U.S. firms), and attendance at the symposium.

¶5. (C) Prince Abdulaziz has also cautioned us that he expects some of the more vocal members of OPEC may use the Summit as an opportunity to highlight recent anti-OPEC legislation and lawsuits in the U.S. (ref D)

FRAKER